

Revised Blending, Braiding, and Sustainable Funding Subcommittee Work Plan January through December 2013

Objective	Action Steps	Responsibility	Timeframe/ Status
3.1. Reduce program barriers to using multiple funding streams (braiding and blending funding in a sustainable way) to improve quality of programs and services available to children.	A. Coordinate with Child Care Advisory Council's recommendations to reduce barriers to accessing child care dollars. 1. Send recommendations to Sub-Committee. 2. Review to see where coordination is useful.	A.1. Gina Ruther A.2. Sub-Committee	A.1-2. February 2013
	B. Identify stakeholders and conduct research on groups who routinely blend multiple funding streams to identify unintended consequences and nuances of eligibility and other requirements. 1. Use the EC Program Matrix; add funding streams (CACFP, Medicaid/AllKids, TANF, home visiting, SNAP, etc.). 2. Add differentiation between state and local/program levels on Matrix; add other factors, as applicable (variable/one-time/ongoing-sustainable, allocation factors, use restrictions, etc.).	B.1-2. Gina Ruther	B.1-2. June 2013
	3. Conduct Round Table sessions to determine barriers to BBSF & eligibility consequences. a. Define local & state participants. Define topics/questions (barriers, eligibility consequences, methods/strategies, comprehensive services) & outcomes. b. Conduct & capture information. c. Report & analyze.	B.3. Sub-Committee (Co-Chairs & Angela lead)	B.3. Summer 2013
	C. Review the possibility of a regional approach to braiding and blending that would lessen the administrative burden on programs. 1. Research other states' models for "pooled" funding, regional, etc. 2. Review local collaboration models & profiles. 3. Define the gaps, barriers & eligibility consequences.	C.1-3. Gina Ruther (use Round Table info for 2-4)	C.1-3. Fall 2013
	4. Analyze and determine local and state/regional model definitions & what might work in IL.	C.4. Sub-Committee	C.4. November 2013
Outcomes	Potential Deliverable: Recommendations to the Early Learning Council about how IL public agencies could improve implementation and program guidance based on identified program challenges in blending/braiding funding.	Sub-Committee	December 2013

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3.2 Maximize opportunities for sustainable funding in early childhood systems.	A. Identify opportunities for leveraging Title I guidance to sustain and expand PreK programs and improve linkages between birth-5 and K-12. 1. Review Student Information System (SIS) numbers about children identified for Title I funding. 2. Gather information about the Consolidated Community of Practitioners (NCLB) and what they are doing. 3. Look at what IL school districts are using Title I funding for early childhood and how. 4. Determine recommendations to make to accomplish 3.2.A.	A.1-3. Samantha Aigner & Cindy Zumwalt	A.1-3. February 2013
	B. Conduct research on phase-in from early childhood block grant to state funding formula while maintaining community based programs and quality of programs. <i>Strategies to be developed later in the plan year.</i>	A.4. Sub-Committee	A.4. June 2013
	C. Collaborate with the Home Visiting Task Force's Sustainability Work Group on strategies to maximize opportunities for sustainable funding. 1. Work with the Co-Chairs of the Work Group to determine what the HVTF is doing. 2. Determine strategies for the BBSF Sub-Committee based on this.	C.1. Gina Ruther & Angela Hubbard C.2. Sub-Committee	C.1-2. Summer 2013
	D. Collaborate with developers of the QRIS system to analyze the ranges of costs to provide quality early learning in various formats and contexts. 1. Provide input and feedback to the OECD and Work Group developing the QRIS. 2. Research costs of quality care as specified by QRIS indicators & apply to QRIS levels. 3. Look at state funding and uses to make recommendations for how to support.	D.1 & 3. Sub-Committee D.2. Gina Ruther & Angela Hubbard	D.1-3. November 2013
	Outcomes	Sub-Committee	December 2013
	Potential Deliverable: Recommendations to early childhood systems for identifying and securing sustainable funding.		